



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Conservation is **WILDLIFE**

Updated June 2015

WHAT USAID IS DOING

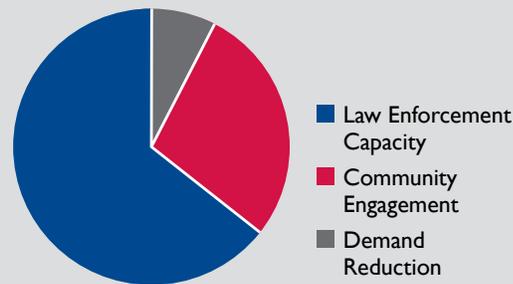
USAID takes a comprehensive approach to conservation, including combating wildlife trafficking, by helping communities manage wildlife by providing training, equipment and new technologies and supporting the development of new policies at the national level. Using FY 2014 and FY 2015 funds, **USAID is starting more than 35 new projects in 15 countries to combat wildlife trafficking.** These new projects extend USAID's legacy of conservation work, joining more than 30 ongoing programs that advance the **National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking.** Our work to strengthen wildlife law enforcement, reduce demand for illegal wildlife products, and build international cooperation and partnerships is critical to the efforts of the USG and the conservation and development goals of the Agency.

USAID invested more than \$50 million in fiscal year 2014 funds, up from \$13 million in 2012, in activities to combat wildlife trafficking by fighting poaching, improving enforcement and prosecution, disrupting transit, and reducing consumer demand in Africa and Asia. Ongoing programs are being reinforced by partnerships with businesses, governments and innovators from a variety of sectors.



BANGKOK, THAILAND: Conservationists march through the Central Business District of Bangkok for the launch of Fin Free Thailand, a USAID-supported campaign. As of June 2015, more than 180 establishments have committed to keeping shark fin off their menus. Photo by Anne Shifley, FREELAND Foundation

USAID'S COMBATING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING PORTFOLIO, FY 2014



Most Agency funding to combat wildlife crime builds the capacity of law enforcement, from park rangers to prosecutors. Remaining funds help communities protect wildlife, or support campaigns and partnerships to reduce demand for wildlife products.

NEW INVESTMENTS

- The transportation sector is a critical link in stopping wildlife crime. USAID is working with representatives from key transportation and logistics companies and associations, government and international enforcement officials, NGOs, and other donors to address the role of transport companies in ending wildlife trafficking.
- USAID is setting priorities and scaling up landscape- and country-specific programs through an agreement with the wildlife monitoring network TRAFFIC. In addition, USAID is sourcing innovative science and technology-based solutions to detect transit routes, strengthen forensic

evidence, reduce consumer demand, and tackle corruption through our Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge.

- For 10 years, USAID has been the lead funder of community-run Wildlife Management Areas in Tanzania, which have benefited local people and wildlife. USAID is further supporting elements of the new "Government of Tanzania Anti-Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade Strategy" as part of the USG's strong interagency process to work with the Government of Tanzania, including its Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, to fight wildlife trafficking.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

USAID's ongoing bilateral, regional and transcontinental activities in Africa and Asia are helping governments in 25 countries fight poaching, improve wildlife law enforcement and prosecution, disrupt illegal transit, and reduce consumer demand for wildlife products. USAID support for training of more than 1000 law enforcement officials contributed to 500 poachers and wildlife traffickers being arrested in 2014 alone. Other recent results include:

- Our flagship program responding to wildlife crime in Asia, ARREST, supports public awareness campaigns in Vietnam, Thailand, and China to reduce the purchase and consumption of endangered wildlife. Since April 2011, ARREST has leveraged \$4 million from governmental and private partnerships to reach over 740 million people across Asia through the internet, TV spots, and installations at airports, train stations and border crossings.
- Through support for three regional workshops in Central, East and Southern Africa in 2013 and 2014, USAID brought to scale the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART), developed by a coalition of conservation organizations to improve the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement and site-based conservation activities. It is now an essential component of USAID's work in Central Africa, with SMART training and equipment provided to 309 eco-guards in 2014. It is now being rolled out in several African and Asian countries.
- USAID supports development of new technologies to help law enforcement officials combat wildlife trafficking. USAID, the Association of Southeast Asian National Wildlife Enforcement Network, and Freeland recently launched WildScan, a new mobile application that identifies endangered species. The app, containing photos and important information for more than 300 species, is available in multiple languages to support a rapid response to illegally trafficked wildlife.

USAID'S WORK IN ACTION

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME IN MOZAMBIQUE

USAID's portfolio in Mozambique reflects our big picture approach to conservation in many countries. For example, our support helped develop a new Conservation Law, passed in 2014, that criminalizes wildlife trafficking and improves community incentives for conservation. We also helped Mozambique's Attorney General's Office bring together elected officials, law enforcement officers, conservation leaders, and reporters to develop a strategy to better prosecute wildlife traffickers and combat organized crime. In Gorongosa National Park, where USAID just committed to another five years of participation in a \$20 million partnership, training in ranger field craft contributed to 186 poachers being apprehended and over 1600 snares and traps being removed or destroyed in 2014. In Niassa National Reserve, an elephant stronghold and poaching hotspot, USAID supported recruitment and training that effectively doubled the size of the professional ranger force and joined a new five-year partnership worth \$24.5 million that aims to transform conservation in the landscape, build protected area system capacity in law enforcement monitoring, and advise on regulatory reforms needed to apply the new law.



NIASSA NATIONAL RESERVE, MOZAMBIQUE: Elephants are a source of pride and sustainable tourism income to some, but for others they are commodities for quick cash. In September 2014, police and conservation scouts confiscated the tusks, rifles and ammunition pictured on the left and arrested six elephant poachers in a raid of a home south of Niassa National Reserve in Mozambique.

Left photo by Michiel Terrelen.
Right photo by Derek Littleton, Luwira.